



James City County Comprehensive Plan Presentation

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Paul Scott, MS, CSOTP
Executive Director
Lisa Thomas, MSW, EdS
Deputy Director

Outline

- Brief overview of Child Development Resources
- History of Partnership with James City County
- The Importance of Early Childhood Development
- CDR's Direct Service Programs
- Virginia Infant & Toddler Specialist Network
- Additional resources
- Questions?



Child Development Resources

- Founded in 1966 as "Williamsburg Area Preschool for Special Children" by parents of children with special needs who were deemed not school ready
- Currently serve approximately 1000 children a year, ages 0-3 in the "Historic Triangle" of Williamsburg, James City County, York County and Poquoson.
- "Dual mission" of direct services and training and technical assistance to other early childhood professionals, including Virginia Infant & Toddler Specialist Network
- Budget of ~ \$5.5 million, most of which is contract or grant funds restricted to specific projects
- Board of Directors (23) with varied backgrounds and approximately 40% formerly enrolled parents
- Awarded Community of Excellence (2002), Williamsburg Health Foundation's Health Care Heroes' Award (2010), Voices for Virginia's Children Carol Fox Making Kids Count Award (2013).
- Recognized in the Virginia Department of Social Services Eastern Region Quality Service Review (2013) report
- More information about services, programs and funding in Annual Report, available on www.cdr.org

History of Partnership with James City County

- CDR first offered services in St. Martin's Episcopal Church on Jamestown Road
- Offices have always been in James City
- Our partnership with James City County and Williamsburg-James City County schools dates back to our founding
- CDR participated in the WJCC Preschool Task Force (1996)
- Our administrative offices are located in Norge
- Both of our major fundraisers (Bid-n-Buy Auction and Vineyards of Williamsburg 5K) are all held in James City County
- CDR's training department has hosted many conferences in the area, helping to fill hotel rooms and generate meal taxes

History of Partnership with James City County

- One of our EHS child care centers is located at Lafayette High School
- CDR secured ARRA ("stimulus") funds to renovate the defunct auto repair shop at LHS to expand to 4 classrooms serving 32 children
- Classrooms serve as an early childhood learning lab for students enrolled in Family & Consumer Sciences courses and, before budget cuts, also the LPN certification program
- It is NOT child care for high school students – typical enrollment is low income, working families
- Currently hosts student volunteers who read to the children
- 4-Star QRIS and NAEYC accredited program

The Importance of Early Childhood Development

Well-designed studies and brain research have confirmed :

- The vast majority of a child's brain architecture is established before age 5 and early experiences set the foundation for a child's life
 - Infants/toddlers who experience inconsistent/insecure care, are exposed to violence, abuse, neglect, etc can show signs of neurological damage
 - These experiences can impact a child's school readiness and they may lack the social/emotional and self-care skills necessary for success
 - The American Academy of Pediatrics (Dec 2011) published a report called "The Lifelong Effects of Early Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress"
- "Toxic stress in young children can lead to less outwardly visible yet permanent changes in brain structure and function" including: "functional differences in learning, memory, and aspects of executive functioning...[decision making, working memory, behavioral self regulation, and mood and impulse control] "...hyper responsive or chronically activated physiological stress response, along with increased potential for fear and anxiety."*

The Importance of Early Childhood Development

- Virginia is ranked 10th in the nation in pre-kindergarten expulsion
- Of 50 VA 1st graders with reading delays, 44 still have delays in 4th grade
- 25 % of VA kids enter Kindergarten unprepared
- 27% of disadvantaged kids between 3rd – 9th grade fail reading assignments
- 10% of children enrolled in Virginia Preschool initiative programs needed literacy remediation at kindergarten vs 17% for overall population.
- This year **12,000 kids will fail K – 3** costing Virginia tax payers \$100+ million dollars, so a 7% difference puts \$7 million back into state budget (like widening I-64, etc)
- States like Virginia and Texas use 3rd grade reading scores to predict the number of prison beds they will need in the future
- On average, a child who drops out of school, uses drugs and becomes a career criminal costs society \$2.5 million dollars over his/her lifetime
- The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development shows the US is falling to 15th out of 23 countries in Literacy and 21st in math – this makes it difficult for us to compete in the global economy

Now, the good news: CDR helps!

- At CDR our goal is to support and coach the parent to be their child's first and most important teacher, and this early intervention works
- Data show that children served by CDR make significant developmental gains in key areas for school readiness
- Parents report feeling more confident in their roles and are more engaged in supporting their child's safety and development
- National research shows that for every \$1 invested in early childhood development, at least \$7 are saved in later special education, juvenile justice, health care, and unemployment expenditures
- Over half of the children we serve with disabilities or developmental delays 'catch up' to typically developing peers and need no additional services. This saves WJCC schools significant Special Education dollars.
- Children living in poverty with significant risk factors show development in skills which will help them be successful in school – this leads to lower drop out rates



Supporting an Investment in Early Childhood Education - Virginia Chamber of Commerce "Blueprint" - Mission: Readiness




High Quality Early Childhood Education Sets the Stage for Strengthening Our Economy and Our Nation

MISSION: READINESS
MILITARY LEADERS FOR KIDS

Benefits of James City County's Investment in Early Childhood Development

- Communities which make an investment in quality early childhood program can expect to enjoy a higher quality of life than those that don't
- School quality and community safety impact property values
- Quality Early Childhood Programs have been established as the best way to develop a highly skilled workforce which can help the County attract the most desirable employers to the area
- As a result we continue our support for the County's investment in W-JCC Public School's Preschool Program, Bright Beginnings, which helps ensure children at-risk for school failure can succeed (PN 3.2)
- Also encourage the Comprehensive Plan to include factors which alleviate stressors on families living in poverty such as the availability of safe and affordable housing and reliable public transportation
- Consistent with 2009 Comprehensive Plan, zoning which supports home-based child care businesses (PN 2.1 and PN 2.4)
- CDR is working on helping establish "Family Friendly Communities" in the Historic Triangle

JCC as a Family Friendly Community

- Family friendly communities are communities where families enjoy housing that is affordable, high quality child care, parks to play in, quality schools, and safe neighborhoods
- Businesses embrace families by offering kid friendly discounts such as "buy one get one free" meals or admissions
- The "Family Friendly" logo is displayed prominently
- Attracts new businesses and new residents
- Vast majority of planners do not consider children in comprehensive plans – 2009 JCC Comp Plan led the way!



CDR's Direct Service Programs

- Infant-Parent Program (IPP) serves children aged 0-3 with disabilities and developmental delays
 - IPP is staffed with a team of specially trained & licensed Speech, Physical, Occupational Therapists and Special Educators.
- Early Head Start (EHS) supports families living in poverty who also have a variety of risk factors
 - EHS provides parent education and support through home visitation including an RN and staff with Master's degrees
- Parents As Teachers (PAT) serves families at risk for poor health or developmental outcomes and supports positive health outcomes such as immunizations
 - Staffed with an RN who does home visitation
- Developmental Playgroup in Norge
 - Group socialization for children who receive home visits from CDR
- Fatherhood services support their important role with their children, especially "Rookie" dads

Virginia Infant & Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN)

- VDSS-funded project providing statewide professional development for child care providers (including home and religious exempt) in 8 regional offices (15 ITS's in those 8 regions)
- Three service levels:
 - On-site consultation including mentoring and support using quality improvement plans
 - T&TA for groups and caregivers/teachers and directors
 - Resources and linkages to existing professional development opportunities
- Celebrating Babies and Tots events throughout the State
- Quality Child Care funds from James City County used to support professional development work of center directors (in partnership with Thomas Nelson Community College's Workforce Development Center).

Help CDR Help the Children!

Vineyards of Williamsburg 5K on August 9th



Additional Resources

- www.cdr.org
- www.infantva.org (The Virginia Part C site)
- <http://va.gapitc.org/> (VA Infant-Toddler Specialist Network)
- <http://www.colonialbh.org/child-services/greater-williamsburg-child-assessment-center.aspx>
- www.parentsasteachers.org
- www.missionreadiness.org
- www.smartbeginnings.org
- <http://www.vachamber.com/blueprint/>



QUESTIONS??